



NATHAN MICK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
GARRARD COUNTY

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CONTACT: Nathan Mick

Nathan Mick hired as Vice President of International Economic Development Company

(LANCASTER, KENTUCKY) ---Garrard County Economic Development Director Nathan Mick has been hired to serve as Vice President of a technology-based, international economic development company focused on site selection and located in New York. Mick's last day serving as Garrard County Economic Development Director will be February 1, 2013.

Mick was hired as the first economic development director for Garrard County in October 2007. During his tenure, Mick successfully helped new and existing Garrard County businesses create hundreds of new jobs while lowering the Garrard County unemployment rate by five percent during a recession; recruited millions of dollars in new economic development investment; and helped secure millions of dollars in community grants. Garrard County growth has been regularly highlighted through print, radio, television and digital media, including a *Lexington Herald-Leader* front-page feature story showcasing Garrard County economic development success titled, "Positives Abound in Garrard County".

Mick said, "It has been a high honor for me to work for Garrard County and focus on economic and community development here for the last five years. There are many challenges yet to overcome in our community but we have worked hard and realized success through team leadership. People like Garrard County Judge/Executive John Wilson, Deputy Judge James Bushnell, and the Garrard Fiscal Court; Governor Steve Beshear; former State Representative Lonnie Napier and State Senator Tom Buford; U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell and U.S. Senator Rand Paul; former U.S. Congressman Ben Chandler and our current U.S. Congressman Brett Guthrie; Lancaster Mayor Brenda Powers and the Lancaster City Council; former Lancaster Mayor Don Rinthen; the Lancaster-Garrard County Industrial Development Authority and Chair David Land; the Garrard County Chamber of Commerce; and many other community businesses and leaders have contributed their time and talents to work together to move Lancaster and Garrard County forward. It has been a privilege to serve our community and I will always do what I can to help Garrard County."

Garrard County Judge/Executive John Wilson said, "It will be extremely difficult to replace Nathan and continue the achievements we have had in growing our community with the help of his hard work and leadership over the last five years. His successes have certainly been our successes in Garrard County and for the Region. Despite the economic downturn that has been felt across the world, many more people are working today in Garrard County, and more new businesses and services are here now, than when Nathan started with us, and that is a testament to his efforts and our success. We'll miss Nathan and his talents greatly as our economic development director. Nathan leaves big shoes to fill for his successor as there is still much work to

be done. We are so appreciative of his many contributions and dedication to making Garrard County better. I look forward to working together in the future and it is good news to know Nathan and his wife Maggie have made the choice to continue to live in our community.”

While Mick will commute regularly to New York in his new position, he and his wife will continue to live in their Lancaster, Kentucky home. Mick continued, “Maggie and I feel blessed to live in Kentucky and serve our beautiful community. One of the largest benefits of my new job is remaining in Kentucky. Maggie and I have felt at home in Garrard County since moving here five years ago. Garrard County is a special place with rich history, culture, wonderful people, and pristine beauty. We look forward to continuing to live here and we will continue to find ways to help make our community and Kentucky better.”

RECENT GARRARD COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS STORIES

After over a decade sitting empty, the 32,000 sq. ft. Garrard County spec building was sold to Performance Feeds and Animal Health--the largest beef cattle feed distributor in Tennessee--to serve as their Kentucky distribution center and provide new jobs and agriculture services for the Region. Mine Shield purchased an empty 60,000 sq.ft. building and made a multi-million investment in Lancaster, creating new jobs while manufacturing life-saving refuge chambers using NASA technology and featured on the NASA.Gov website. Lancaster going from dry to full-wet in 2008, resulting in new tax revenue in Lancaster, new businesses, new jobs, and one of the largest Godfather’s restaurants in the United States. A small business retail cluster transformation on Lancaster’s Campbell Street. Acquiring an additional 90 acres of industrial property through a grant received in conjunction with Allison Abrasives’ \$3 million industrial expansion that resulted in over 20 new jobs at one of Garrard County’s oldest corporations. Jointly founded the Bluegrass South Regional Economic Development Coalition including Garrard and nine other Kentucky counties to pool resources and strengthen Regional marketing efforts. Created the “[It’s Garrard County!](#)” video with a \$400 budget, which was one of the “Top 15 most viewed *Travel and Events* videos on YouTube” the first weekend it was launched. Organized countless community projects and special events including the creation of the Garrard County Community Committee; the United States Library of Congress Veterans History Project to record the oral histories of over 50 local Veterans; and hosting an “Honoring our Veterans” event in Lancaster with the Founder of the Vietnam Wall in Washington, DC, Jan Scruggs.

ABOUT NATHAN MICK

Nathan Mick is an economic and community development professional most recently serving as the Garrard County Economic Development Director. Nathan Mick's prior experience includes nearly six years working for United States Senator, now United States Secretary of Defense nominee, Chuck Hagel, serving as Deputy Chief of Staff in Washington, DC. Mick also served as Deputy Campaign Manager for a United States Senate campaign and has broad experience in government at all levels, politics, campaigns, consensus building, planning, operations, logistics, organizational management, marketing, technology, diplomacy, and strategic leadership. Mick has traveled extensively to all 50 United States and internationally to over 39 countries including official delegation representation on behalf of the U.S. State Department. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma Economic Development Institute; graduated from Centre College in Danville, Kentucky; and received his Master’s in National Security and Strategic Studies from the United States Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. Mick volunteers on numerous Boards and Councils and lives in Lancaster, Kentucky with his wife, Maggie Morris Mick.

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